



# THIELEN, FOLEY & MIRDO, LLC

—Attorneys at Law, Bloomington, Illinois



## The Firm

Thielen, Foley & Mirdo, LLC is a law firm dedicated to providing skilled and cost-effective legal representation, while adhering to the highest ethical standards.

Our attorneys take a purposeful approach to litigation, which allows us to achieve results that other civil litigation firms do not. Too often, the discovery phase of litigation is an unfocused period that does little but increase the ultimate cost of litigation. Our philosophy is to utilize available discovery tools in a targeted manner, toward achieving a specific litigation goal on behalf of

our client — to position the case for summary judgment, to conclude the case with a reasonable settlement at an early stage, or to zealously present our client’s case at trial. Activities at the trial court level are undertaken with due consideration toward protecting the rights of our clients at the appellate level.

Clients of Thielen, Foley & Mirdo, LLC rest assured that our litigation strategies are carefully considered, and that no litigation activity is undertaken unless it advances a specific objective in the case.

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### Thielen, Foley & Mirdo, LLC

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## Practice Areas

### Insurance Defense Litigation

The firm's insurance defense practice encompasses a wide variety of subject areas, including automobile liability, trucking liability, premises liability, contractor liability, governmental liability, civil rights, legal malpractice, medical malpractice, nursing home liability, personal injury, wrongful death, product liability, workers' compensation, and arbitration of uninsured and underinsured motorist claims. The firm's insurance defense litigation practice extends to both state and federal courts throughout the State of Illinois.

### Insurance Coverage Litigation

Thielen, Foley & Mirdo, LLC takes an active role in assisting insurance companies, businesses and individuals resolve questions and disputes concerning the scope of insurance coverage. We often are retained to represent the interests of our clients in negotiating a resolution to insurance coverage disputes, or to pursue or defend the rights of our clients in declaratory judgment actions, suits for interpleader, and insurer bad faith litigation.

### Workers' Compensation

Our firm handles all aspects of workers' compensation litigation, representing employers, insurance companies and individuals in connection with workplace injury claims. We have extensive experience presenting cases before arbitrators, commissioners and appellate courts throughout the State of Illinois.

### Commercial Litigation

We often assist in the litigation of business disputes. Whether the action arises out of a contract dispute, product liability, commercial fraud, tortious interference with contractual relations, or various other types of commercial litigation, our firm brings knowledge and experience to optimize our clients' interests. We are cognizant of and responsive to our client's business concerns within the context of the litigation.

### Alternative Dispute Resolution

Thielen, Foley & Mirdo, LLC has skilled and experienced trial attorneys who are able to identify the strengths and weaknesses of both sides to a dispute. Our statewide representation of clients in litigation matters gives us the insight necessary to accurately assess the value of claims presented in any venue within the State of Illinois, and to assist parties in reaching an equitable solution to their disputes. Our attorneys provide both arbitration and mediation services to conclude difficult disputes where other attempts at resolution have failed.

### Appellate Representation

The firm provides skilled appellate representation to our clients. In the vast majority of our cases, we have obtained favorable results for our clients on appeal, either by protecting the positive outcome we achieved at the trial level, or by obtaining reversal of adverse rulings. Our attorneys recognize that success on appeal often depends upon careful attention to detail at the trial level.

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### Appellate Representation (continued)

Our trial and appellate lawyers collaborate closely in crafting dispositive motions, motions in limine, jury instructions, offers of proof, and post-trial motions designed to create a record in the trial court that will

support our client's position in the event of an appeal. In addition to handling the appellate phase of litigation that originates within our firm, we accept referrals of appellate representation from outside the firm.

### Published Appellate Opinions:

Helm v. Thomas.....	362 Ill. App. 3d 331 (4th Dist. 2005)
Manns v. Briell.....	349 Ill. App. 3d 358 (4th Dist. 2004)
Bale v. Barnhart.....	343 Ill. App. 3d 708 (4th Dist. 2003)
Myers v. Bash.....	334 Ill. App. 3d 369 (4th Dist. 2002)
Guzman v. C. R. Epperson Construction, Inc.....	196 Ill. 2d 391 (2001)
Witvoet v. Fireman's Fund Ins., Inc.....	317 Ill. App. 3d 915 (3d Dist. 2000)
Guzman v. C. R. Epperson Construction, Inc.....	309 Ill. App. 3d 655 (4th Dist. 2000)

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## Representative Clients

Allstate Indemnity Company  
Auto-Owners Insurance  
Badger Mutual Insurance Company  
Country Casualty Insurance Company  
Country Mutual Insurance Company  
Erie Insurance Company  
Foremost Insurance Company

Governmental Interinsurance Exchange  
Illinois Farmers Insurance Company  
Mid-Century Insurance Company  
National Fire & Casualty Company  
Pekin Insurance Company  
21st Century Insurance Company

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## Our Office

Established in 1998, the firm's offices are located in the historic Illinois House, which sits on the northwest corner of the courthouse square in Bloomington, Illinois. Our central location allows us to efficiently meet the needs of our clients throughout the State of Illinois.

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## Attorney Profile / Brian P. Thielen

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### **Brian P. Thielen, Principal**

—Brian Thielen is a principal with Thielen, Foley & Mirdo, LLC. He is a trial lawyer with more than 25 years of experience, who concentrates his practice in insurance defense litigation and commercial litigation. Mr. Thielen frequently serves as an arbitrator, assisting parties to resolve disputes in an equitable manner. He also teaches a course in trial advocacy to high school students.

### **Areas of Practice**

General Trial Practice  
Personal Injury & Wrongful Death  
Automobile Liability  
Premises Liability  
Commercial Litigation  
Product Liability  
Construction Litigation  
Dram Shop  
Professional Liability  
Governmental Liability  
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist Claims  
Alternative Dispute Resolution

### **Education**

B.S., with Honors, Illinois State University, 1980  
J.D., Southern Illinois University, 1983

### **Admitted to Practice**

Illinois State Courts  
United States District Court, Central District of Illinois

### **Publications**

“Know Your Duty: When Are You Liable for Damage/Injury”  
The Water Log, Spring 2000  
(National Marine Underwriters, Annapolis, MD)

### **Memberships**

Illinois State Bar Association  
Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel  
McLean County Bar Association

## Attorney Profile / Joseph W. Foley

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### Joseph W. Foley, Principal

—Joe Foley is a principal with Thielen, Foley & Mirdo, LLC. He is a trial lawyer with more than 15 years of experience who concentrates his practice in insurance defense litigation and workers' compensation. Mr. Foley frequently serves as an arbitrator, assisting parties to resolve disputes in an equitable manner. He also serves as a court-appointed Guardian Ad Litem representing the interests of children in litigation matters.

### Areas of Practice

General Trial Practice  
Workers' Compensation  
Personal Injury & Wrongful Death  
Automobile Liability  
Premises Liability  
Construction Litigation  
Dram Shop  
Professional Liability  
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist Claims  
Alternative Dispute Resolution  
Appellate Representation

### Education

B.S., Indiana University, 1990  
J.D., John Marshall Law School, 1993

### Admitted to Practice

Illinois State Courts  
United States District Court, Central District of Illinois  
United States District Court, Southern District of Illinois

### Memberships

American Bar Association  
Illinois State Bar Association  
McLean County Bar Association  
Director, Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel

## Attorney Profile / Barbara Snow Mirdo

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### Barbara Snow Mirdo, Principal

—Barbara Mirdo is a principal with Thielen, Foley & Mirdo, LLC. She focuses her practice on insurance coverage litigation and appellate representation. Ms. Mirdo’s coverage practice involves evaluation and application of a variety of different types of insurance policies, including automobile, homeowners, farm, marine, contractors, business, commercial general liability, and umbrella liability.

### Areas of Practice

Insurance Coverage Litigation  
Appellate Representation  
General Trial Practice  
Personal Injury & Wrongful Death  
Automobile Liability  
Premises Liability  
Construction Litigation  
Professional Liability  
Governmental Liability  
Civil Rights Litigation  
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist Claims

### Education

B.A., summa cum laude, University of S. Mississippi, 1992  
J.D., cum laude, University of Illinois, 1995

### Admitted to Practice

Illinois State Courts  
United States District Courts, Central District of Illinois  
United States District Courts, Southern District of Illinois  
United States Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit

### Publications

“Willful and Wanton Defendants May Seek Contribution from Negligent Joint Tortfeasors”  
82 Illinois Bar Journal 630, November 1994

“Know Your Duty: When Are You Liable for Damage/Injury”  
The Water Log, Spring 2000  
(National Marine Underwriters, Annapolis, MD)

### Memberships

Illinois State Bar Association  
McLean County Bar Association  
Rules Committee, Appellate Lawyers Association

## Attorney Profile / Gregory J. Berg

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### Gregory J. Berg

—Greg Berg joined Thielen, Foley & Mirdo, LLC in March 2004. Prior to entering the practice of law, he was active in the healthcare and insurance industries. Mr. Berg focuses his practice in insurance defense litigation covering a broad range of subjects. Additionally, he practices in the transactional areas of wills and estates, probate, and the organization of not-for-profit corporations.

### Areas of Practice

General Trial Practice  
Personal Injury & Wrongful Death  
Automobile Liability  
Premises Liability  
Nursing Home Liability  
Governmental Liability  
Civil Rights Litigation  
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist Claims  
Alternative Dispute Resolution

### Education

B.B., Western Illinois University, 1985  
J.D., Saint Louis University, 2001

### Admitted to Practice

Illinois State Courts  
United States District Court, Central District of Illinois  
United States District Court, Southern District of Illinois

### Memberships

Illinois State Bar Association  
McLean County Bar Association

## Attorney Profile / Adam T. Clark

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### Adam T. Clark

—An Associate of Thielen, Foley & Mirdo, LLC, Adam Clark focuses his practice in insurance defense litigation covering a broad range of subjects. Additionally, he practices in the transactional area of real estate. Prior to joining Thielen, Foley & Mirdo, LLC, Mr. Clark practiced in Champaign, Illinois for 7 years, focusing primarily on insurance defense litigation.

### Areas of Practice

Insurance Defense Litigation  
General Trial Practice  
Personal Injury  
Automobile Liability  
Premises Liability  
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist Claims

### Education

B.A., Illinois Wesleyan University, 2001  
J.D., Southern Illinois School of Law, 2004

### Admitted to Practice

Illinois State Courts  
United States District Court  
Central Illinois District of Illinois

### Memberships

Illinois State Bar Association  
Champaign County Bar Association



## Contact Information

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